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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE (PAUL PFEUFFER AND BRAD EVANS)

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/20/2019

TAGS: [AORC](#) [PREL](#) [KV](#) [ZA](#)

SUBJECT: ZAMBIANS WILLING TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO

REF: STATE 94939

Classified By: DCM Michael Koplovsky for Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) Zambian Government (GRZ) officials are prepared to meet with Government of Kosovo (GOK) representatives in New York. During a September 18 meeting, Zambian Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Tens Kapoma told the DCM that GRZ's delegation to the UNGA would respond affirmatively to a GOK meeting request in order to "explain the Zambian position." Kapoma acknowledged GRZ support for Kosovar membership in the World Bank and IMF but said that his government prefers to wait until the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) before reconsidering its position on Kosovo recognition. Kapoma pointed to the GRZ's confidence with ICJ rulings in the past, particularly with regard to its 1971 ruling on the illegality of South Africa's presence in Namibia, and implied that the GRZ would respond positively to a favorable ICJ finding.

BOOTH